(a) whether the Union Government propose to adopt a mechanism for shortening the delay of various projects which are pending for clearance with various Ministries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). There is already a mechanism which is being followed for clearance of projects by such Ministries as Surface Transport, Commerce, Water Resources etc.

Ministry of Surface Transport has delegated powers to the Public Sector Undertakings who hare signed the MOUs with the Department. Ports have been delegated powers to the extent of Rs. 5 crores of taking investment decisions. For externally aided projects in the road sector, a procedure has also been adopted to approve proposals in consultation with the Finance Ministry without obtaining Cabinet approval. Ministry of Commerce has introduced the Working Group Mechanism to provide One Window Clearance. Ministry of Water Resources have revised their guidelines for submission approval and clearance of Irrigation Projects in February, 1990. All such measures are intended to expedite clearance of various projects in the concerned Ministries.

Licences for Setting up of Sugar Factories in Bihar

4428. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRSAD SINGH:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of licences issued for setting up of co-operative sugar factories in Bihar during the last three years, category-wise;

(b) whether financial institutions like RBI, IDBI and ICCI have refused to grant loans for the setting up of these factories stating that these factories are neither feasible nor viable;

(c) if so, whether any probe on the reasons for granting licences for these factories has been ordered;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) (a) No Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence has been issued for setting up of a Cooperative sugar factory in Bihar during the last 3 years.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Prices of Bulk Drugs

4429. SHRI RAM PRAKASH CHAUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government notify the prices of bulk drugs;

(b) whether the notified prices of bulk drugs has recently been changed;

(c) if so, the norms laid down for effecting such a change; and

(d) the period after which the corresponding change in drug-formulation get effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTIL-

IZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Revision/fixation of prices of bulk drugs and formulations/ is an on-going process under the provisions of DPCO, 1987, and are done on the recommendations and in consultation with BICP. These are notified/fixed after due examination from time to time.

[Translation]

Food Processing Industries in Bihar

4430. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food processing industries functioning in Bihar at present;

(b) the details of the proposals received by the Union Government for setting up new food processing industries in Bihar during 1991-92; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) There are 29 fruit and vegetable processing units and 10 Sweetened Aerated Water units licenced under Fruit Products Order (FPO) in Bihar. There are 41 Roller Flour Mills, 4872 Rice Mills including modern/modernised Rice Mills, Hullers, Shellers, Huller-cum-Shellers in Bihar. One large scale Bread manufacturing unit and a Pork processing plant (Bacon factory) is functioning at Ranchi in Bihar. Information in respect of other food processing industries is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). A proposal seeking assistance for development of infrastructure for mushroom cultivation and processing by tribal villages has been approved. Another proposal seeking assistance for development of infrastructure for food, fruit and vegetable processing in tribal areas of Chota Nagpur is under examination. Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. is examining a proposal for setting up of Poshahar/Energy food plant in Bihar. This Ministry has also suggested to Bihar Government to set up an additional port processing line in the Bacon factory at Ranchi.

Applications from Orissa for Industrial Approval

4431. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the Union Government from Orissa during the last three years seeking industrial approval;

(b) the number of applications accepted or rejected;

(c) the reasons for the applications lying pending for a long time; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government so far for the early disposal of pending applications for industrial approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). During the period from 1988 to 1991 (upto 30th November), a total number of 180 applications seeking Letters of Intent for setting up of industrial units in Orissa have been received. Out of these, 45 have been approved and 93 have been rejected/otherwise disposed of.